

**BOARD FOR GEOLOGISTS AND GEOPHYSICISTS**

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The Board for Geologists and Geophysicists Technical Advisory Committee has recommended the following definitions of professional geological and geophysical work to the Board for consideration as potential regulations.

The Board is very interested in receiving comments from all stakeholders prior to beginning the formal "rulemaking" process. Please send your comments to the Board's office in Sacramento by April 25, 2003, via any of these methods:

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**Technical Advisory Committee Regulation Changes
For Board Consideration****Article 1. General Provisions****Section 3003. Definitions.**

(d) "Professional geologic work" is performed at a professional level rather than at a subprofessional or apprentice level and requires the application of scientific knowledge, principles and methods to geological ~~problems~~ studies through the exercise of individual initiative and judgment in investigating, measuring, interpreting and reporting on the physical phenomena of the earth affecting public welfare or the safeguarding of life, health, property and the environment, except as otherwise specifically provided by this chapter. Implicit in this definition is the recognition of professional responsibility and integrity and the acknowledgment of minimal supervision.

"Professional geological work" includes, but is not limited to, the collection of geological data, consultation, investigation, analysis, evaluation, interpretation, planning, mapping or inspection that

The Mission of the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists is to Continuously Enhance the Quality, Significance, and Availability of Geological and Geophysical Services Offered to the People of California

applies to geology, geologic processes, and the responsible supervision thereof, affecting public welfare or the safeguarding of life, health, property and the environment, except as otherwise specifically provided by this chapter.

“Professional geological work” specifically does not include such routine activities as drafting, sampling, sample preparation, routine laboratory work, etc., where the elements of initiative, scientific judgement and decision making are lacking, nor does it include activities which do not use scientific methods to process and interpret geologic data. Further, it specifically does not include soils engineering, soils sampling, soils testing or other activities in or related to the agricultural application of soils sciences. It also does not include mining, mining engineering or other engineering disciplines and/or other physical sciences wherein geological investigation, analysis and interpretation are minimal or lacking.

(e)“Professional geophysical work” is work performed at a professional level rather than at a subprofessional or apprentice level and requires the application of scientific knowledge, principles and methods to geophysical ~~problems~~ studies through the exercise of individual initiative and judgment in investigating, measuring, interpreting and reporting on the physical phenomena of the earth affecting public welfare or the safeguarding of life, health, property and the environment, except as otherwise specifically provided by this chapter. Implicit in this definition is the recognition of professional responsibility and integrity and the acknowledgment of minimal supervision.

“Professional geophysical work” includes, but is not limited to, the collection of geophysical data, consultation investigation, analysis, evaluation, interpretation, planning, mapping or inspection that applies to geophysics, geophysical processes, and the responsible supervision thereof, affecting public welfare or the safeguarding of life, health, property and the environment, except as otherwise specifically provided by this chapter.

“Professional geophysical work” specifically does not include activities wherein the analysis or interpretation of geophysical or geological information is lacking. Such nonprofessional work could encompass party or crew chief and would encompass lesser forms of employment in field parties, the manufacture, assembly or maintenance and repair of geophysical instruments and equipment, computer programming, data processing or retrieval and routine activities normally performed by a technician in acquiring and reporting on geophysical information where the elements of initiative, scientific judgment and decision making are absent. It also does not include those engineering disciplines and other physical sciences wherein geophysical or geological investigation, analysis and interpretation are minimal or lacking.

For reference purposes, the existing language for 3003(d) and 3003(e) is as follows:

(d) “Professional geologic work” is work performed at a professional level rather than at a subprofessional or apprentice level and requires the application of scientific knowledge, principles and methods to geological problems through the exercise of individual initiative and judgement in investigating, measuring, interpreting and reporting on the physical phenomena of the earth. Implicit in this definition is the recognition of professional responsibility and integrity and the acknowledgment of minimal supervision.

“Professional geological work” specifically does not include such routine activities as drafting, sampling, sample preparation, routine laboratory work, etc., where the element of initiative, scientific judgment and decision making are lacking, nor does it include activities which do not use scientific methods to process and interpret geologic data. Further, it specifically does not include soils engineering, soils sampling, soils testing or other activities in or related to the agricultural application of soils sciences. It also does not include mining, mining engineering or other engineering disciplines and/or other physical sciences wherein geological investigation, analysis and interpretation are minimal or lacking.

(e) “Professional geophysical work” is work performed at a professional level rather than at a subprofessional or apprentice level and requires the application of scientific knowledge, principles and methods to geophysical problems through the exercise of individual initiative and judgment in investigating, measuring, interpreting and reporting on the physical phenomena of the earth. Implicit in this definition is the recognition of professional responsibility and integrity and the acknowledgment of minimal supervision.

“Professional geophysical work” specifically does not include activities wherein the analysis or interpretation of geophysical or geological information is lacking. Such nonprofessional work could encompass party or crew chief and would encompass lesser forms of employment in field parties, the manufacture, assembly or maintenance and repair of geophysical instruments and performed by a technician in acquiring and reporting on geophysical information where the elements of initiative, scientific judgment and decision making are absent. It also does not include those engineering disciplines and other physical sciences wherein geophysical or geological investigation, analysis and interpretation are minimal or lacking.